

ADVENTURES  
in  
Wonderland

10¢

ADVENTURES

in

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COMICS  
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AUTHORITY

# Wonderland

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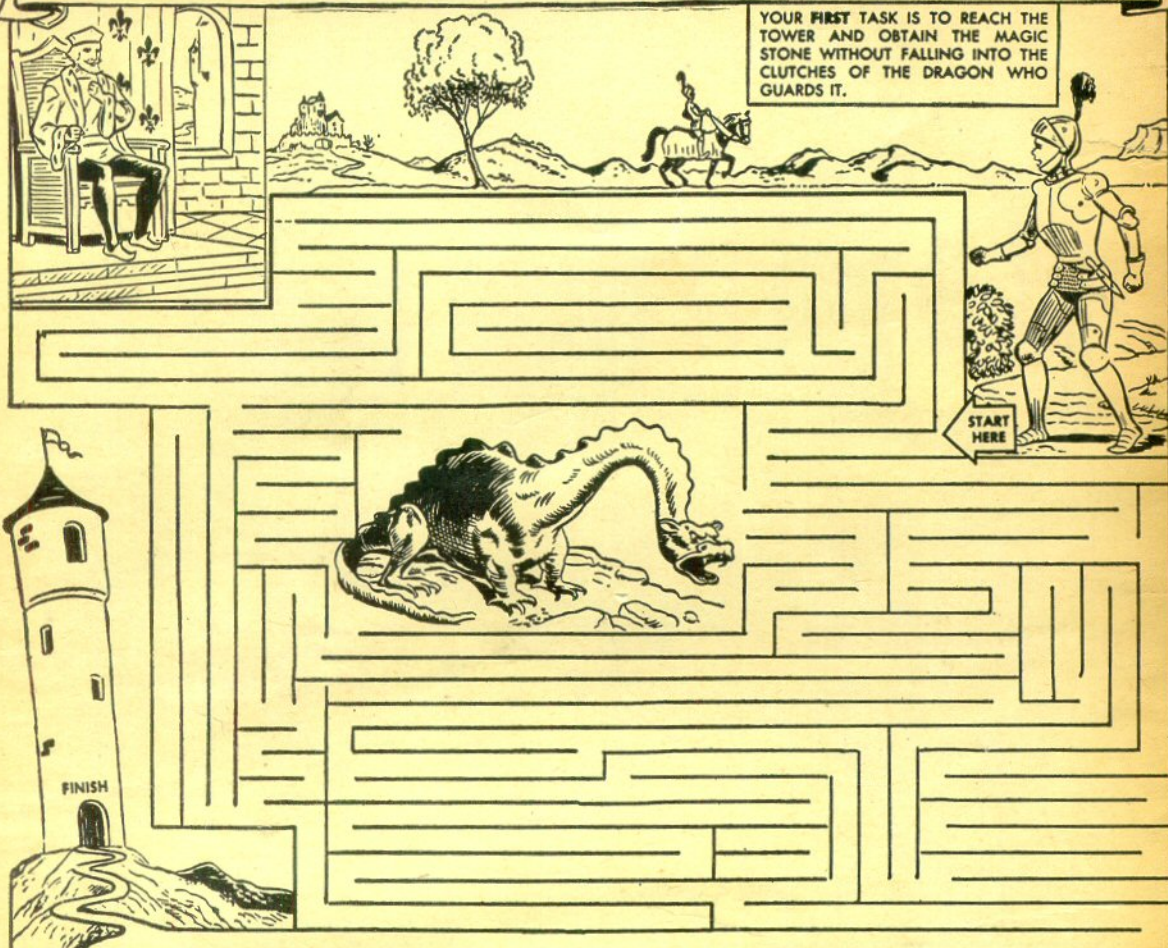
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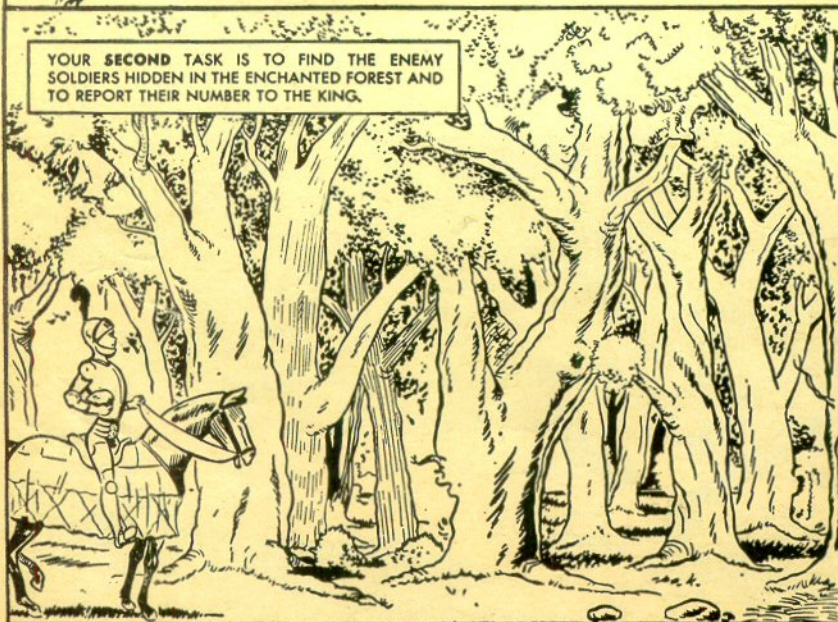
# BY ORDER OF THE KING!

THE KING HAS GIVEN YOU THREE TASKS TO PERFORM. CAN YOU DO THEM?

YOUR FIRST TASK IS TO REACH THE TOWER AND OBTAIN THE MAGIC STONE WITHOUT FALLING INTO THE CLUTCHES OF THE DRAGON WHO GUARDS IT.



YOUR SECOND TASK IS TO FIND THE ENEMY SOLDIERS HIDDEN IN THE ENCHANTED FOREST AND TO REPORT THEIR NUMBER TO THE KING.



YOUR THIRD TASK IS TO UNSCRAMBLE THIS MESSAGE WRITTEN BY THE KING HIMSELF. WHEN YOU HAVE COMPLETED THIS THIRD TASK YOU WILL KNOW WHAT YOUR REWARD IS.

TURN THE PAGE UPSIDE DOWN FOR THE ANSWERS

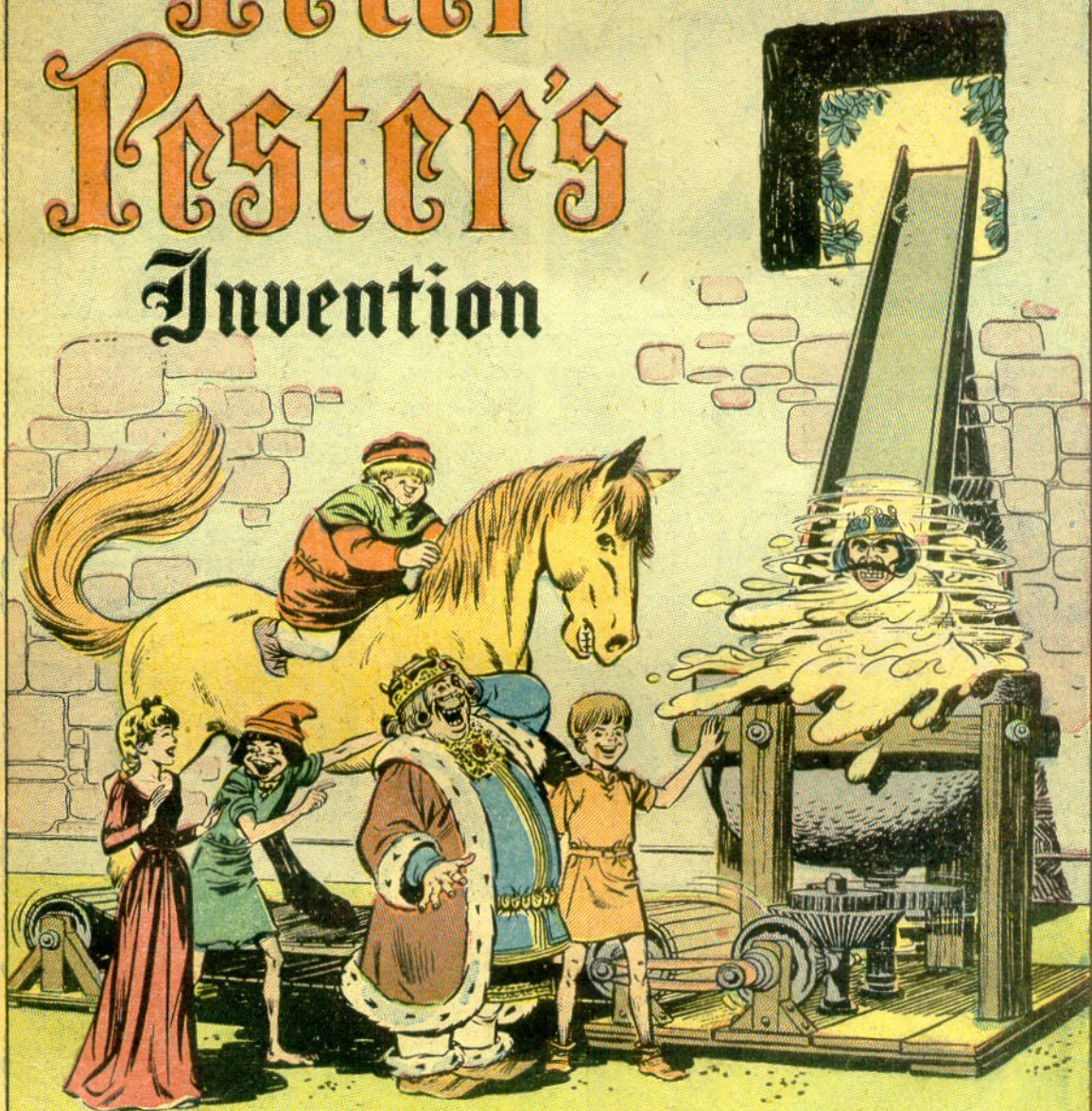
REYEOHW  
SMROFEP ESEHT  
SKSAT LLIW EB  
NEVIG FLAH YM  
MODGNIK



IF YOU STICK TO THE FIRST TASK WE KNOW YOU WILL SUCCEED. THERE ARE FIVE FACES IN THE SECOND TASK. YOU WILL KNOW THE ANSWER TO THE THIRD TASK IF YOU READ THE WORDS FROM RIGHT TO LEFT.



# Peter Pester's Invention



**I**n the days of Peter Pester and his pals, there were few inventors. So you will see why Peter had so much trouble interesting his king, Rolly, in his latest creation—especially

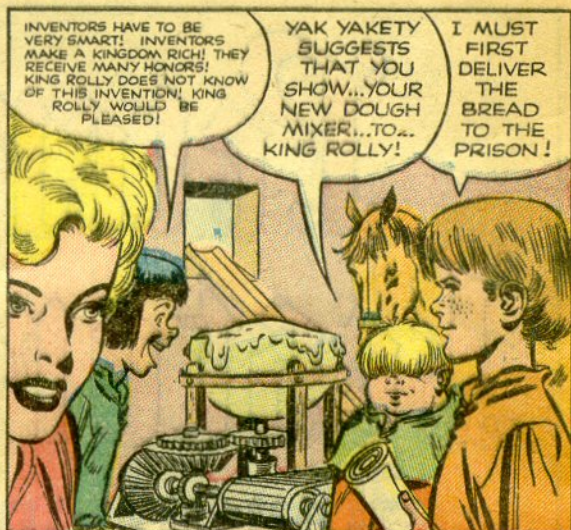
at a time when the Kingdom of Gladiola was in danger of bankruptcy from the inside and enemy attacks from the outside. How does Peter solve both problems?





I AM SURROUNDED BY IDIOTS! OUR WORLD TRADE HAS DWINDLED TO ALMOST NOTHING, WHILE OUR RIVALS GROW RICH AND PROSPEROUS! AND NONE OF YOU HAS AN IDEA!

GUARDS! FETCH PETER PESTER! HE IS A MERE BOY, BUT HE IS SMARTER THAN THE LOT OF YOU!



INVENTORS HAVE TO BE VERY SMART! INVENTORS MAKE A KINGDOM RICH! THEY RECEIVE MANY HONORS! KING ROLLY DOES NOT KNOW OF THIS INVENTION! KING ROLLY WOULD BE PLEASED!

YAK YAKETY SUGGESTS THAT YOU SHOW...YOUR NEW DOUGH MIXER...TO... KING ROLLY!

I MUST FIRST DELIVER THE BREAD TO THE PRISON!



THE KING WISHES TO SEE PETER PESTER, THOUGH I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY!

POKEY SLOW KNOWS HOW TO RUN THE BAKERY! GINGER PEACHY IS FAMILIAR WITH YOUR WORK! I HAVE BEEN HERE MANY MONTHS! WE KNOW WHAT TO DO! THE PRISONERS MUST BE FED! WE WILL TAKE CARE OF THEM!

YAK MEANS... WE'LL... DELIVER THE BREAD... FOR YOU...

I'M GLAD YOU SENT FOR ME! I'VE INVENTED A NEW KIND OF DOUGH MIXER!

PETER, DO YOU KNOW WHY PITCHFORKIA AND GOBLINIA HAVED TRIPLED THEIR BUSINESS?

SURE, PITCHFORKIA HAS THE RIVER THAT RUNS UPHILL, WHILE GOBLINIA BOASTS OF THE BLACK WATER WELL! IF GLADIOLA WOULD ATTRACT BUSINESS, WE MUST HAVE SOME ODDITY THAT MEN WOULD COME MILES TO SEE!

FAKES! BOTH ARE FAKES! THAT RIVER IS JUST AN OPTICAL ILLUSION, WHILE EVERYONE KNOWS THAT THE KING OF GOBLINIA FILLS THE WELL WITH BLACK VEGETABLE DYE EVERY MORNING!



GIVE ME SOME MONEY TO THROW!

BE READY WITH THE FILES AND SAWS! WE MUST NOT BUNGLE THIS, OR FALCON DU PRES WILL HAVE OUR HEADS!



I AM UNABLE TO BELIEVE MY EYES! SOMETHING IS FALLING! IT IS YELLOW! IT IS MADE OF METAL! GOLD COINS ARE YELLOW! THEY ARE MADE OF METAL!

YES...IT IS... RAINING MONEY! HURRY, YAK, LET US GATHER IT UP!





I DO NOT UNDER-  
STAND! IT IS NOT  
CLOUDY! THE SUN IS  
IN THE SKY! WHEN  
IT RAINS, IT IS WET!  
THE RAIN IS NOT  
YELLOW! THE RAIN  
DOES NOT CLINK  
WHEN IT HITS THE  
GROUND!

I AM ALSO  
PUZZLED...  
BUT, STOP  
TALKING...  
AND PICK UP  
THE MONEY!  
WE HAVE  
MORE WORK  
TO DO!



I COULD HARDLY  
WAIT FOR YOU TO  
ARRIVE! MY TOOTH  
FEELS AS IF IT  
WOULD EXPLODE! YOU  
LADS FEED THE  
PRISONERS AND I  
WILL BE BACK AS  
SOON AS I SEE  
THE DENTIST!

HAVE MY  
MEN DONE  
THEIR WORK  
WELL? WILL  
I NOW  
GET OUT  
OF THIS  
MISERABLE  
HOLE?



HA, HA, HA, HA! AS  
SOON AS WE ARE FREE,  
I AM GOING TO THE  
CASTLE TO TAKE RE-  
VENGE ON ROLLY AND  
PETER PESTER! GRIZZIG,  
GRAB THE SMALL BOYS  
AND TIE THEM WELL! I  
WISH TO DELAY KNOW-  
LEDGE OF OUR ESCAPE  
AS LONG AS  
POSSIBLE!

IT WILL  
BE A  
PLEAS-  
URE,  
MY  
KING!



IT IS GLORIOUS TO FINISH ONE'S  
WORK! WE ARE NOW ABLE TO  
WALK TO THE MARKET! THEY  
SELL MANY THINGS! THEY SELL  
CANDY FOR MONEY! THEY SELL  
TOYS FOR MONEY!

AND WE  
HAVE M...  
MMMFF!  
SPLUFF!



AH! THIS  
MUST BE  
THE  
THRONE  
ROOM!

I HAVE A SUGGESTION,  
YOUR MAJESTY! WE  
COULD SPREAD THE  
WORD THAT THE MOST  
BEAUTEIOUS MAIDEN IN  
THE WORLD LIVES IN  
GLADIOLA! PEOPLE  
WOULD COME FROM  
FAR AND NEAR TO  
LOOK UPON HER!

PRINCESS  
DENISE  
WOULD  
BE  
PERFECT!



NO, PETER, I DO  
NOT THINK  
ANYONE WOULD  
TRAVEL FAR TO  
SEE MY  
NIECE!

I HAVE IT! WE  
COULD HOLD  
A CONTEST TO  
SELECT THE MOST  
BEAUTIFUL GIRL...  
AND YOU COULD  
MARRY HER! EVERY-  
ONE WOULD COME  
TO SEE YOUR  
BRIDE!



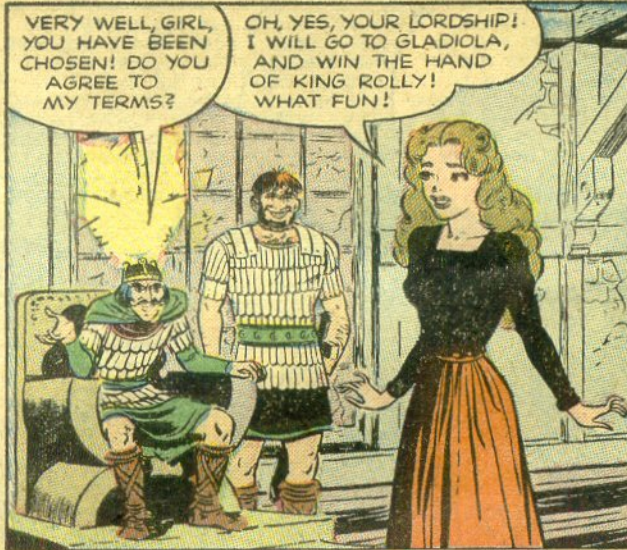
HMM... YES,  
THAT WOULD  
BE, BUT WHAT  
BEAUTY  
WOULD  
MARRY  
ME?

DO NOT WORRY,  
KING ROLLY!  
POKEY, YAK  
AND I WILL  
MAKE YOU AS  
SLIM AS A  
TOOTHPICK!

A BEAUTIFUL  
GIRL, EH?  
THAT GIVES ME  
AN IDEA! I  
MUST RETURN  
TO UPROARIA  
AT ONCE!



Upon his return, Falcon Du Pres set out to find the beautiful maiden with whom to bait his evil trap...



VERY WELL, GIRL, YOU HAVE BEEN CHOSEN! DO YOU AGREE TO MY TERMS?

OH, YES, YOUR LORDSHIP! I WILL GO TO GLADIOLA, AND WIN THE HAND OF KING ROLLY! WHAT FUN!



SYBIL IS PERFECT! BEAUTIFUL AND STUPID BEYOND BELIEF! NOW SEND MANY SPIES AMONG ROLLY'S PEOPLE TO TALK ABOUT HER FABULOUS BEAUTY! I WANT ROLLY'S INTEREST AROUSED!

Meanwhile, Falcon's escape has been discovered...



IMBECILES! WHY AM I CURSED WITH YOU? FALCON DU PRES WAS LOCKED IN OUR STRONGEST DUNGEON AND YOU MORONS LET HIM ESCAPE!

WAIT, KING ROLLY! 'TIS SAID THAT FALCON'S KINGDOM HAS GONE TO WRACK AND RUIN IN HIS ABSENCE! UPROARIA WILL NOT BE STRONG ENOUGH TO THREATEN US AGAIN ANYWAY!



WELL, SINCE YOU THREE CAPTURED HIM IN THE FIRST PLACE, I SUPPOSE I SHOULD BE MERCIFUL!

OH, THANK YOU, KING ROLLY! WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL! WE ARE... MFFF!

KING ROLLY! THERE IS MUCH COMMOTION IN THE STREETS! PEOPLE SAY THEY ARE FIGHTING FOR THE HAND OF A GIRL CALLED SYBIL, THE BEAUTIFUL!

HUSH, YAK, OR HE MAY CHANGE HIS MIND!

The Falcon's spies pretend to duel over Sybil...



SHE IS A DANCER AT THE CRYSTAL SLIPPER! MANY MEN HAVE DIED FOR HER BUT NO ONE HAS WON HER HAND!

SHE MUST BE A BEAUTY INDEED! WEEVIL, GO SEE IF SHE WILL CONSENT TO BEING PRESENTED AT COURT!

OOF!

UGH!

TAKE THAT!

SYBIL IS MINE!



ALL IS GOING AS I EXPECTED! THAT SKINNY LITTLE MAN IS WEEVIL, KING ROLLY'S PRIME MINISTER! PLAY UP TO HIM! HE'S YOUR KEY TO THE PALACE!



UPL! PLEASED TO MEET YOU! WOULD YOU...THAT IS, I AM...UH... HAVE BEEN SENT BY KING ROLLY! WOULD YOU LIKE TO...COME TO THE PALACE TOMORROW AND MEET HIM?

OOOH, YOU HANDSOME MAN! I'D LOVE IT!



Meanwhile, the boys prepare Rolly for his meeting with Sybil, the beautiful...

I CANNOT PUFF! DO IT, PETER! I AM PUFF! EXHAUSTED!

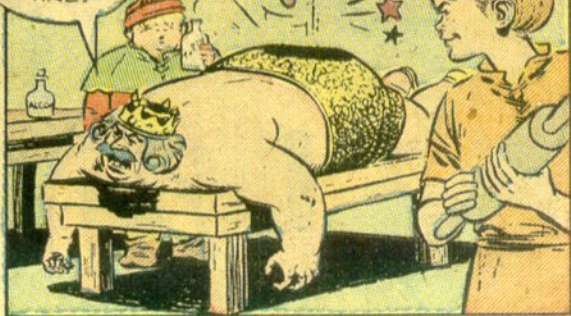
YOU WANT TO BE THIN FOR THE BEAUTIFUL SYBIL! DO YOU NOT? LIFT IT FIFTY MORE TIMES AND THEN YOU CAN SKIP ROPE!

THE ALCOHOL IS READY! THE TABLE IS PREPARED! I HAVE THE ROLLING PINS! IT IS NECESSARY TO HAVE A TABLE TO GIVE A RUB-DOWN! YOU NEED ROLLING PINS! ONE MUST HAVE...

YES, YAK, A RUB-DOWN IS GOOD, BUT FIRST, HE MUST SIT...IN THE STEAMBOX!

JUMPING JEHOSEPHATI! ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL ME? POKEY, WHAT DID YOU RUB ON ME? IT SMELLS LIKE TURPENTINE!

OH, OH! I... SEEM TO... HAVE MADE A... MIS-TAKE!



The next morning, Sybil is presented to weary King Rolly...

OH, KING ROLLY! YOU ARE AS HANDSOME AS THEY SAY YOU ARE!

GRACIOUS! THE EXERCISES MUST HAVE WORKED!

WHY, UH... SPLUFF! HOW NICE! ER... UH... YES! NOW I SHALL SEE WHY ALL MY SUBJECTS ARE FIGHTING FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

YOU ARE INDEED THE MOST BEAUTIFUL MAIDEN IN THE ENTIRE KINGDOM!

WATCH OUT! YOUR MUSTACHE IS CAUGHT IN MY BRACELET!



ODDS BODKINS! GET ME LOOSE, SOMEBODY!

YOU CANNOT REMAIN IN THAT POSITION! YOU CANNOT WALK AROUND WITH A BRACELET AND A BEAUTIFUL MAIDEN CAUGHT IN YOUR MUSTACHE! YOU WOULD LOOK SILLY! YOU WOULD NOT LOOK DIGNIFIED!

YOU... YOU... I'LL HAVE YOUR HEAD! MY POOR MUSTACHE! YOU IGNORAMUS! I'LL...

DO NOT SCOLD HIM, ROLLY! NOW I SHALL HAVE A LOCK OF YOUR HAIR TO KEEP WITH ME ALWAYS!

PSST! SHE MUST BE FOND OF YOU... WHY NOT PROPOSE RIGHT NOW?

THE THINGS I DO FOR MY COUNTRY! I... ER... THAT IS, MISS SYBIL, WOULD YOU... UH... CONSIDER... UH... BLAST IT- WOULD YOU BE MY BRIDE?

THIS IS QUITE SUDDEN, ROLLY, BUT I ACCEPT! GLADLY! I MUST GET MY THINGS FROM THE CRYSTAL SLIPPER. BUT I SHALL RETURN!





King Rolly begins his publicity campaign to attract more people and bring more foreign trade to his country...

"...THOUSANDS OF  
BRAVE MEN HAVE  
FOUGHT AND DIED  
FOR A GLANCE FROM  
HER EYES! IT IS  
WORTH ALL THE  
TREASURES OF THE  
UNIVERSE TO LOOK  
UPON HER!"

HOW  
DOES  
THAT  
SOUND?

**SPLENDID! HAVE  
PESTER AND HIS  
FRIENDS TAKE  
THEM TO THE  
MAILING POST  
AT ONCE! IF OUR  
MESSENGERS WASTE  
NO TIME, WE  
SHOULD HAVE RE-  
SULTS WITHIN A  
FORTNIGHT!**

Back at the Crystal Slipper, Falcon Du Pres unfolds his crafty plan to Sybil, the beautiful...

ONE OF THESE PILLS, DROPPED INTO A BARREL OF WINE, WOULD PUT AN ARMY TO SLEEP FOR FOUR HOURS! I WANT THEM PUT IN THE NOON MEAL, AND WHEN EVERYONE IS ASLEEP, MY ARMY WILL MARCH IN! AS A SIGNAL, WHEN ALL IS READY, RELEASE THE ROYAL FALCONS! AND DON'T TELL ANYONE!

I'LL DO  
IT, IF YOU  
PROMISE  
IT WILL  
NOT HARM  
THEM!

Sybil did her work well...

WAKE UP, MEN! WE  
ARE STILL ON DUTY  
AND YOU MUST BE  
ALERT! YOU WILL BE  
PUNISHED IF  
YOU... YAWN!

I AM TRYING, CAPTAIN LASAR, BUT I AM SO SLEEPY THAT I

And in the Throne Room...

...AND THE ROYAL  
TREASURER REPORTS  
THAT...;YAWN; THE  
TREASURY IS ;YAWN;  
FALLING SHORT  
OF..ZZZZZZ ZZZZ

SNAP OUT  
OF IT,  
WEEVIL!  
WHAT IS  
THE  
MATTER  
WITH YOU?

Having missed  
the lunch hour,  
Peter stops at  
a tavern...

I SUPPOSE  
THE POOR FELLOW  
HAS BEEN WORKING  
TOO HARD! I MAY AS  
WELL LET HIM TAKE  
A SHORT NAP!

THIS IS A  
GOOD CHANCE  
TO PRACTICE! SYBIL  
AND I CAN SPEND  
THE LONG WINTER  
EVENINGS SINGING  
OLD FOLK SONGS  
OF GLADIOLA!

COME! THERE  
IS MUCH WORK  
TO FINISH IN  
THE BAKERY!

I STILL HAVE  
MUCH FOOD!  
I HAVE NOT  
FINISHED MY  
MILK! I AM  
STILL HUNGRY!  
I NEED MORE  
TIME! THE MEAT  
IS GOOD! THE  
FISH...

HA! HA!  
YAK HAS  
BEEN  
TALKING  
SO MUCH  
HE HASN'T  
HAD TIME  
TO EAT!





THEY'RE ALL ASLEEP!

NO ONE IS LEFT AWAKE!

WAIT—I HEAR MUSIC COMING FROM THE THRONE ROOM!



IT IS THE KING!

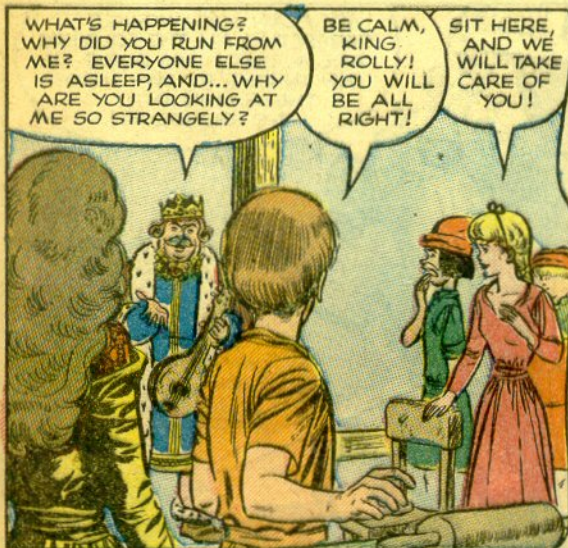
JUMPING DRAGONS! REMEMBER NERO WHO FIDDLER WHILE ROME BURNED! ROLLY MUST HAVE GONE MAD AND POISONED EVERYONE! LET US RUN FOR THE BAKERY!



OH, HELLO! I WAS HOPING SOMEONE WOULD COME!

I AM GLAD YOU ARE SAFE! ROLLY HAS GONE MAD! DO NOT EAT OR DRINK ANYTHING!

HURRY, POKEY! KING ROLLY IS FOLLOWING US!



WHAT'S HAPPENING? WHY DID YOU RUN FROM ME? EVERYONE ELSE IS ASLEEP, AND... WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME SO STRANGELY?

BE CALM, KING ROLLY! YOU WILL BE ALL RIGHT!

SIT HERE, AND WE WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU!



WELL, ALL RIGHT... I WAS FEELING SLEEPY...

HE'S FALLEN ASLEEP TOO! SYBIL IS THE ONLY ONE LEFT AWAKE! THAT RING... I RECOGNIZE THE CREST! IT IS OF THE KINGDOM OF FALCON DU PRES! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

I PROMISED NOT TO TELL! YOU WILL HAVE TO GUESS!



THESE MUST BE SLEEPING PILLS! THAT'S THE KIND OF TRICK DU PRES WOULD THINK OF! THE PILLS MUST HAVE WORKED MORE SLOWLY ON ROLLY BECAUSE OF HIS BULK! HOW LONG WILL THEY STAY ASLEEP?

TWELVE HOURS?... EIGHT?... SIX?

HA! HA! THIS IS FUN! THE FAT LITTLE BOY IS GETTING CLOSE!



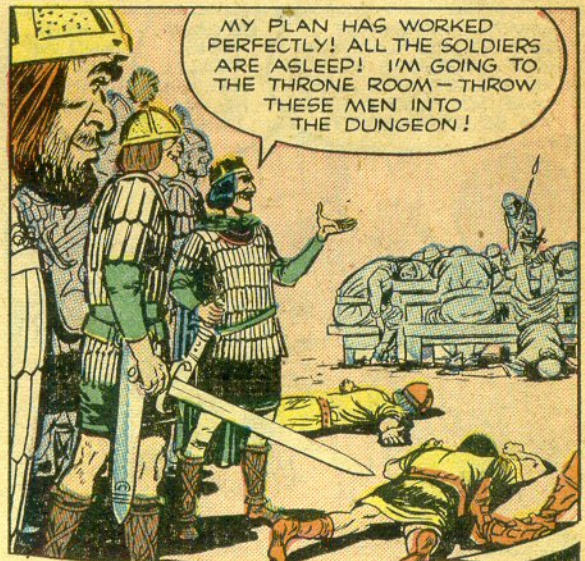
FIVE HOURS?... FOUR?

FOUR!

YOU GUESSED IT! I DIDN'T TELL YOU!

FALCON MUST BE WAITING FOR A SIGNAL, SO HE WILL KNOW WHEN IT IS SAFE TO INVADE! WHAT IS IT, SYBIL? WHAT'S YOUR SIGNAL TO HIM?

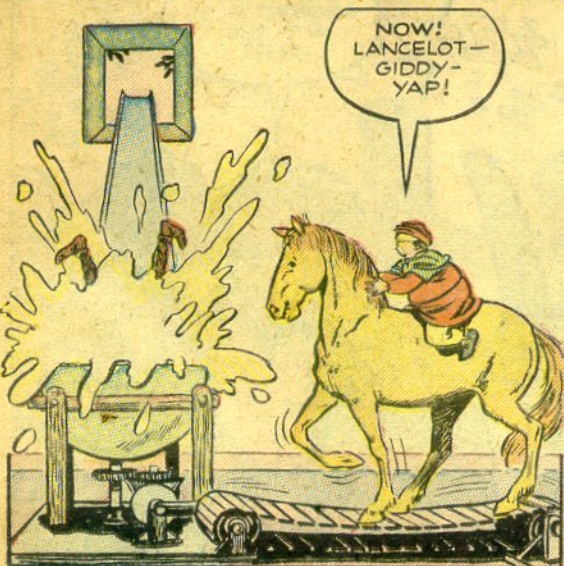








THOSE ARE BRAVE WORDS! CAN YOU BACK THEM UP?







WAIT! WHAT AM I LAUGHING ABOUT? PESTER, IF IT HAD NOT BEEN FOR YOU, WE WOULDN'T HAVE HAD ANY OF THIS TROUBLE! IT WAS YOUR IDEA THAT WE BRING IN THE GIRL WHO TRIED TO POISON US ALL! GET OUT! YOU ARE FIRED! I DON'T EVER WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

BUT...BUT KING ROLLY... IT IS NOT MY FAULT THAT YOU CHOSE FALCON'S GIRL, SYBIL!

GLADIOLA IS IN-DEED FORTUNATE!

SYBIL, YOUR BEAUTY WAS NOT EXAGGERATED!

BUT I AM NOT SYBIL! I AM DENISE!

LOOK! THOSE FOREIGNERS THINK DENISE IS OUR FAMOUS BEAUTY! PETER PESTER SUGGESTED HER IN THE FIRST PLACE!



THERE SHE IS!

SHE IS TRULY BEAUTIFUL!

SHE WAS CERTAINLY WORTH THE TRIP!

I WOULD TRAVEL MILES TO SEE HER!

LET ME SEE!

GET OUT OF MY WAY!

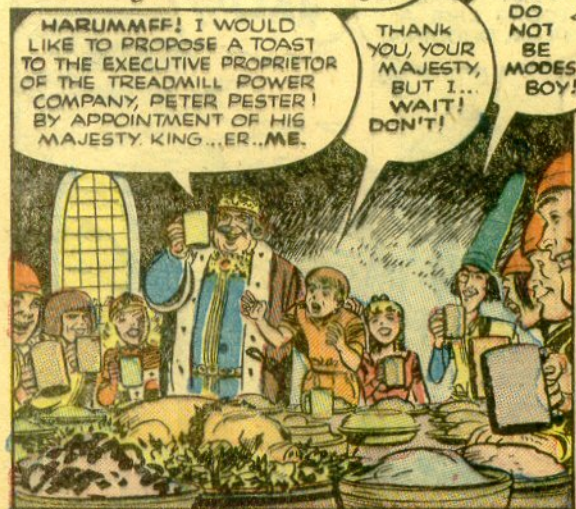


HMM, BY GEORGE, WEEVIL, YOU ARE RIGHT! I OWE YOU AN APOLOGY, PETER! I WOULD LIKE TO DO SOMETHING FOR YOU! WHAT WAS IT YOU WANTED TO DO WITH THAT DOUGH MACHINE OF YOURS?

I WOULD LIKE PERMISSION TO MANUFACTURE THEM, YOUR MAJESTY!



That night, a banquet was held to celebrate Gladiola's new prosperity...



HARUMFFF! I WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE A TOAST TO THE EXECUTIVE PROPRIETOR OF THE TREADMILL POWER COMPANY, PETER PESTER! BY APPOINTMENT OF HIS MAJESTY KING...ER...ME.

THANK YOU, YOUR MAJESTY, BUT I... WAIT! DON'T!

TUT! TUT! DO NOT BE MODEST, BOY!



SYBIL EVEN DROPPED PILLS INTO THE WINE!

the END



# DULLWIT, the dumb Fox

FOXVILLE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

HE! HE! HE!  
HE'S THE  
DUMBEST  
FOX THERE  
IS!

GOSH,  
DULLWIT, OF  
COURSE, I'M YOUR  
FRIEND! BUT IF I  
GO AROUND WITH  
YOU, THEY'LL THINK  
I'M DUMB, TOO!  
SO DO YOU  
MIND IF...IF..

NO! SNIFF!  
G...GO AHEAD!  
I...I DON'T  
BLAME YOU!  
I GUESS I'M  
THE ONLY DUMB  
FOX IN THE  
WORLD!

YAH!  
LOOKIT  
DULLWIT,  
THE DUMB  
FOX!

DULLWIT  
IS A  
DUMBELL!  
YAH! YAH!





HERE IS YOUR LUNCH, DULLWIT, AND BE SURE TO TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR NICE NEW COAT! MY! HOW PROUD IT MAKES MOMMA TO SEE HER OWN LITTLE BOY STARTING SCHOOL!



HELLO, THERE, LITTLE FOX! WHATEVER ARE YOU CARRYING IN THAT BAG?

IT'S MY LUNCH!

CAW...CAW... CAW...YOU CAN'T FOOL ME! THAT'S NOT YOUR LUNCH!

IT IS TOO! I'LL SHOW YOU! SEE FOR YOURSELF!



YOU'VE TAKEN MY LUNCH! GIVE IT BACK!

CAW! CAW! CAW! NO INDEED! IT'S MY LUNCH NOW! WHAT A DUMB LITTLE FOX YOU ARE TO FALL FOR THAT TRICK! WAIT TILL MY FRIENDS HEAR HOW I FOOLED YOU!



BRR... I'M COLD! HOW I WISH I HAD A NICE WARM COAT TO WEAR LIKE THE ONE THAT LITTLE FOX IS WEARING! IF I THOUGHT I COULD STEAL IT, I WOULD, BUT FOXES ARE TOO SMART!

MAYBE SO AND MAYBE NOT! I HAVE A PLAN... LISTEN... BZZZ... BZZZZ... BZZZZ!



OUCH! WHY DID YOU BUMP ME? IF YOU'D KNOCKED ME DOWN I'D HAVE GOTTEN MY COAT ALL DIRTY!

I SAW HIM PUSH YOU! HE DID IT ON PURPOSE! FIGHT HIM, FOX! SHOW HIM WHAT HAPPENS TO BAD BULLIES... I'LL HOLD YOUR COAT!

OH, SO YOU WANT TO FIGHT!



BUT...BUT... BUT...I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT!

OH-HO...SO YOU DON'T WANT TO FIGHT, EH? VERY WELL...





But Dullwit's dreams were soon shattered...in less than an hour, he was home with a note from his teacher...







The police of Foxville were baffled and no wonder—for the Foxnapper was clever...very clever...he was someone they would never have suspected—Dapper Dan, the richest fox in town!



And so Hugo, another poor fox, went willingly with Dapper Dan!





HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE A FINE WATCH LIKE THIS... AND ALL THE MONEY YOU EVER WANTED?

NO...I'M TOO DUMB TO KNOW HOW TO TELL TIME AND I CAN'T EVEN COUNT SO I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SPEND MONEY!  
I'M JUST A DUMB FOX!



THERE MUST BE **SOME-THING** YOU WANT! COME NOW, TELL ME WHAT IT IS, AND I'LL HELP YOU GET IT!

ALL I WANT IS TO BE A SMART FOX! NO ONE CAN HELP ME BE THAT!

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK! COME ALONG WITH ME AND I'LL GET YOU SOME SMART JUICE!

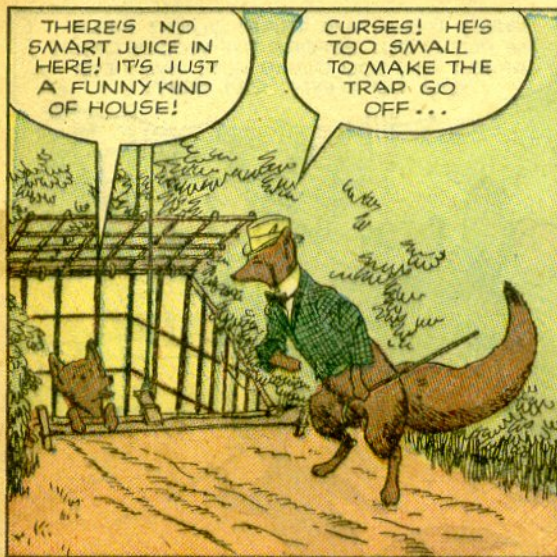
?

SMART JUICE?



THERE'S NO SMART JUICE IN HERE! IT'S JUST A FUNNY KIND OF HOUSE!

CURSES! HE'S TOO SMALL TO MAKE THE TRAP GO OFF...



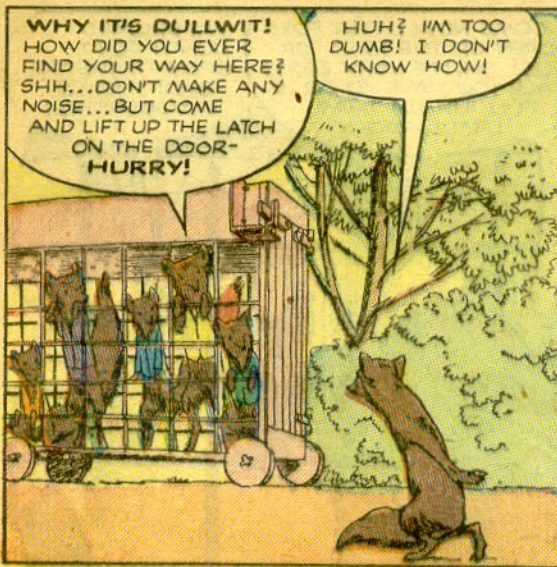
HE'S NOT WORTH MAKING INTO A PELT! HOW DARE YOU BRING ME TRASH LIKE THAT! NOT ONE PENNY FOR HIM!

IT WAS THE BEST I COULD DO! RUN ALONG HOME LITTLE FOX... THIS MAN SAYS THE SMART JUICE IS ALL GONE! DON'T WORRY, BENNY, HE'S TOO DUMB TO REPORT US!



WHY IT'S DULLWIT! HOW DID YOU EVER FIND YOUR WAY HERE? SHH...DON'T MAKE ANY NOISE...BUT COME AND LIFT UP THE LATCH ON THE DOOR-HURRY!

HUH? I'M TOO DUMB! I DON'T KNOW HOW!



DON'T BE SO STUPID, DULLWIT! TRY! PLEASE! IF YOU DON'T WE'LL ALL BE MADE INTO PELTS! YOU'VE GOT TO HELP US! JUST LIFT UP THAT LATCH!

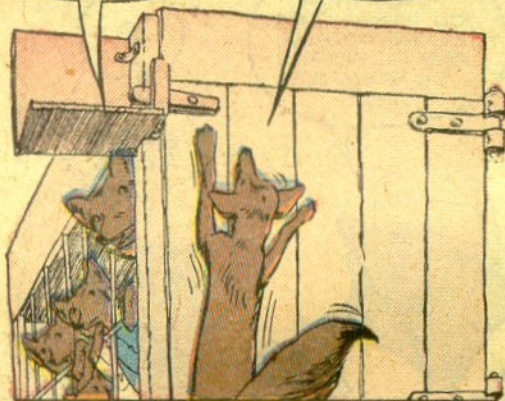
WHAT'S A LATCH? OH, IT'S NO USE... I WOULDN'T DO IT RIGHT AND THEN YOU'D GET MAD AT ME AND CALL ME DUMB!





DULLWIT, PLEASE! IF YOU GET US OUT I PROMISE I'LL NEVER CALL YOU DUMB AGAIN! NEVER, NEVER, NEVER!

ALL RIGHT, I'LL TRY! I...I... CAN'T REACH ANY...HIGHER! I CAN'T!



BOO!...HOO! YOU SEE... I KNEW I COULDN'T DO IT!

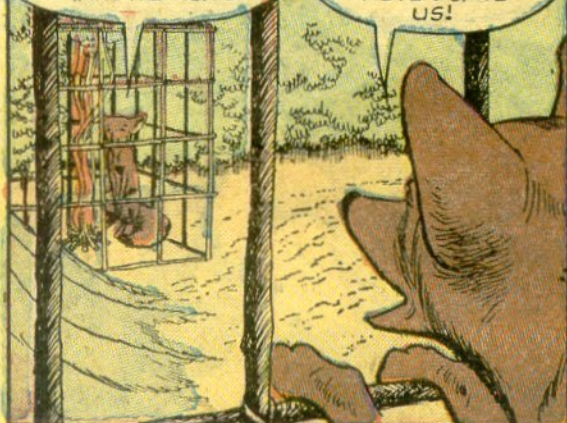
OH, YOU LITTLE DUMB-BELL! THEN GO GET HELP! DON'T JUST SIT THERE! RUN! GET HELP!

OH, HE'S HOPELESS!



IT'S COLD WITHOUT MY COAT! I'LL BUILD A LITTLE FIRE! I'LL SIT HERE AND WAIT UNTIL MY FRIEND, DAPPER DAN, CAN TAKE ME HOME!

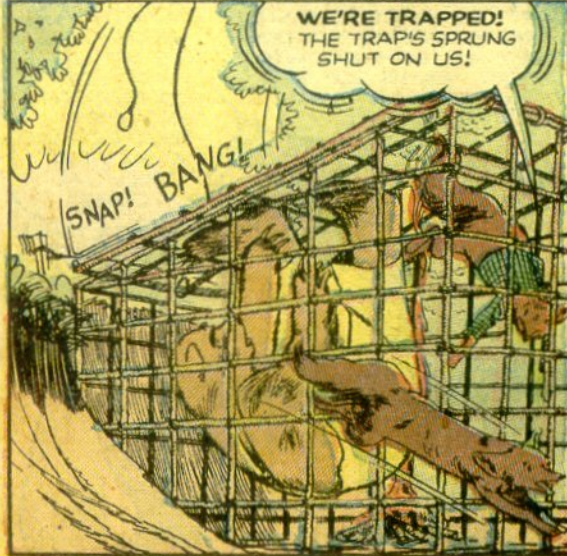
FRIEND! HE'S THE FOXNAPPER! OH, HOW DUMB CAN YOU BE! IT'S NO USE, FRIENDS! HE'LL NEVER SAVE US!



FIRE! IT'S IN THE TRAP! QUICK! HELP ME PUT IT OUT BEFORE THE WOODS CATCH AFIRE! OH, YOU DUMB FOX! WHY DID YOU DO THAT? GET OUT!

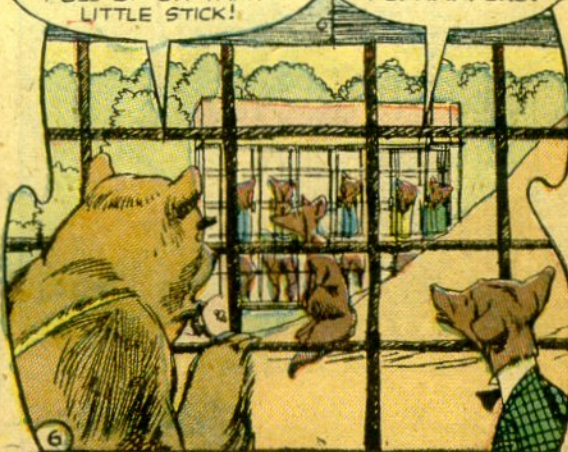


WE'RE TRAPPED! THE TRAP'S SPRUNG SHUT ON US!



COME NOW, LITTLE FOX! OPEN UP THE TRAP FOR US! OH, IT'S VERY EASY! ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS PULL UP ON THAT LITTLE STICK!

NO, DULLWIT, DON'T! DON'T OPEN IT! THEY'RE BAD! THEY'RE FOXNAPERS!











# TOTO'S LONG SLEEP

by  
**PEGGY WALTON**

"Toto, like most children, didn't want to go to bed when his parents told him to. When Toto went to bed he had to stay there all winter, because Toto was a cuddly, cubby bear. Everyone knows how bears sleep all and every winter.

"Toto lived in a beautiful forest. One year, when the first chill of fall was in the air, Toto's mother and father took Toto by the paw and led him deep into the forest. They crawled into a small, hidden cave, wasted little time and settled down for the long winter's nap. All except Toto. He had other plans.

"Toto waited and waited and waited. He pretended to go to sleep but every so often he would open one eye and peer through the gloom of the cave to see if his mother and father were asleep. While pretending to sleep Toto really went to sleep by mistake.

"Toto opened his eyes with a start. He wondered how long he'd been asleep; a day, a week, a month?

"Toto was now alert with the thought of adventure. He quietly eased himself toward the mouth of the cave. Suddenly he heard a noise behind him. Thinking his mother was awake, he stopped. Looking around he realized she was only stirring in

her sleep. Then Toto crawled closer and closer to the entrance of the cave. Finally he saw a crack of light coming in from the outside world and he knew that freedom was only a short distance away.

"As Toto squeezed his fat body through the entrance of the cave he felt free. He was on his own. He let out a whoop and a holler, as only a bear can do, and started to run through the forest.

"Toto couldn't run. He lumbered a few steps and then he had to sit down and rest as his body seemed strangely heavy. 'I must be sick,' thought Toto as he scratched his head. 'Maybe I should go home.' He dismissed that idea from his head and wandered slowly deeper and deeper into the forest.

"Then Toto saw his favorite tree. All summer he'd played in that tree—Hide and Seek and all the other games that bears play. He'd even found honey there, but that was his secret. Toto went close to the tree, looked into its branches and noticed that it looked strangely different. Its green leaves were different colors—colors he'd never seen in a tree before; red, yellow and orange. Some of the leaves had fallen from the tree, lay on the ground and looked brown and dead. 'My tree is dying,' thought



Toto sadly. As he looked around and saw that the other trees had leaves of different colors, he thought, 'What is happening to the forest? All the trees are dying!' Only the big trees with the needles looked the same, they were alive. A tear came to Toto's eye and he slowly raised his paw to wipe it away.

"Toto tried to climb up the large, gnarled trunk. He tried and he tried. His body was so heavy he could hardly lift it from the ground. Finally, from exhaustion, he sat down by the trunk of the tree and pondered. He was sad, he almost wished he hadn't left the cave.

"Toto started to get up but the struggle of getting up made him so tired he fell down again. He yawned a wide, loud yawn. He rubbed his eyes. His eyelids slowly drooped. He tried to prop them open again. Then something startling happened!

"Something cold and light and wet fell onto his nose, then something fell on his eyelids. As he opened his mouth in a wide yawn something cold and light and wet fell onto his tongue. He was startled and opened his heavy eyes. Little white specks were falling all over the forest. Every time a speck fell on him it felt cold, then it disappeared, then turned into a drop of water. Curiosity got the best of Toto. He wanted to see where these funny white specks were coming from. But his eyes closed. He stopped yawning, the little white cold specks fell all over him and soothed him into a deep, untroubled sleep.

"Toto dreamed of the summertime, his favorite tree, then of swimming in the cold, cold stream. Toto couldn't seem to climb out of the freezing water. He woke with a start! He stared into a glaring whiteness. The forest was white! Even Toto was white! And he was cold and numb—and scared.

"Toto moved his stiff joints and with a final effort raised himself from the ground.

He must get back to the cave, but he found he could only move very slowly. He grew colder. Suddenly he heard a noise!

"With terror in his heart he crawled close to a rock nearby and tried to bury himself in the cold, white fluff. He was afraid to breathe. He stayed motionless for what seemed hours. Ready to journey on again, he was heavily getting to his feet when he heard a twig snap in the nearby thicket.

"Toto was afraid to look in that direction but curiosity forced him to. There was something there! A large animal came slowly, stealthily crawling out of the thicket. Toto was frozen to the spot. The animal came nearer and nearer.

" 'Oh!' gasped Toto chokingly as he recognized the animal. 'Mother! I'm so glad to see you!' Without realizing it large tears poured from his eyes. His loving mother licked his face and patted his head with her paw. 'It's all right, Toto. Let's go home.'

" 'But, Mother,' asked Toto, 'what is this strange, white, cold blanket we are walking through?'

" 'This is snow,' she answered. 'This happens every winter.'

" 'But, Mother,' asked the frightened Toto, 'why is my tree dying?'

" 'Every fall the trees lose their leaves, Toto,' she answered. 'Next spring your tree will look the same again.'

" 'But, Mother,' Toto asked again, 'why couldn't I climb the tree?'

" 'Oh, Toto,' she laughed, 'you ate so much last summer, to last you all winter, it's a wonder you can even walk!'

"Toto and his mother moved slowly toward the cave. Finally they saw the entrance, crawled through with great effort. Father was still there, snoring as he had been when Toto left. Toto rolled over, closed his eyes and knew nothing until the next spring."

THE END



# Michael the Misfit

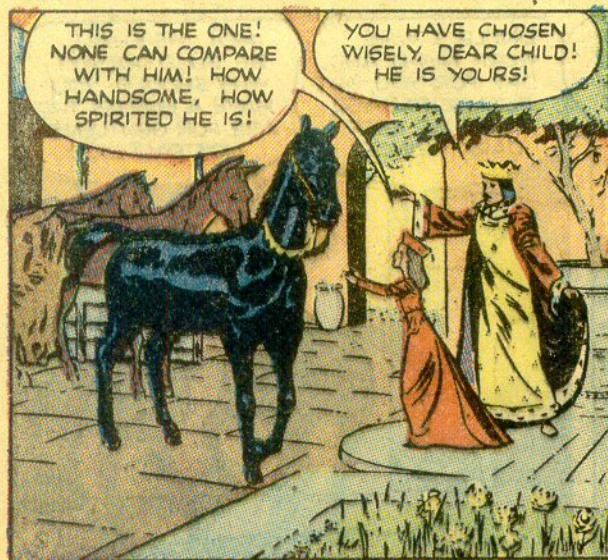
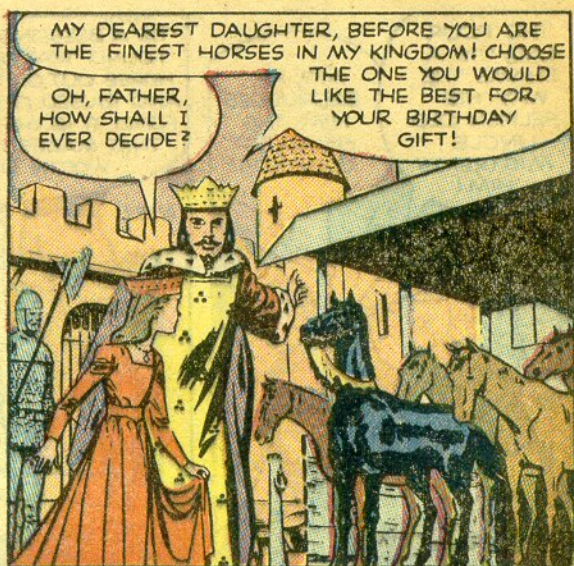
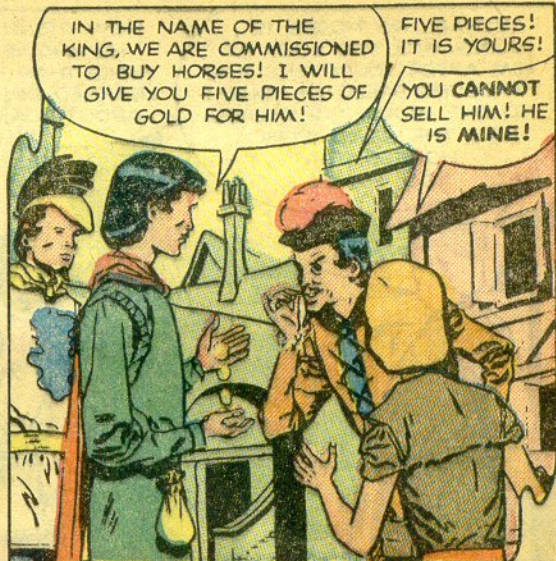


**M**ANY AGES AGO, THERE LIVED A HARD-WORKING STABLE BOY NAMED MICHAEL THE MISFIT. MANY WERE THE TALES TOLD OF HIS STRANGE ADVENTURE, BUT NONE TRULY REVEALED THE MOST INTERESTING PART OF IT - HIS RISE FROM HUMBLE RAGS TO SILKS AND GOLD. HIS ONLY POSSESSION WAS A FINE BLACK HORSE WHICH HE LOVED MORE THAN HIMSELF.













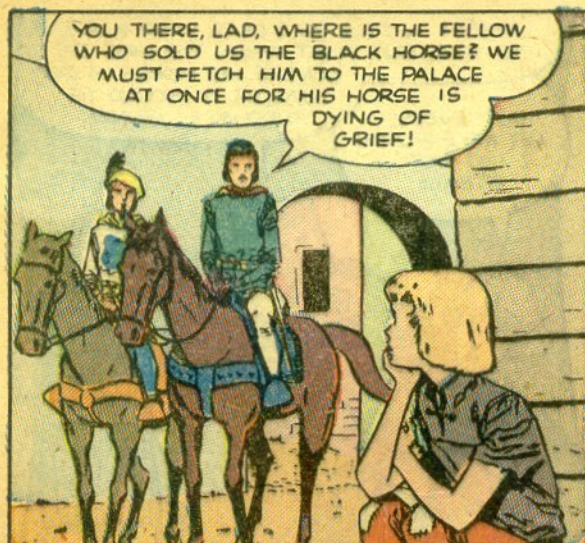
CAN THIS BE MY BEAUTIFUL HORSE? WHAT TERRIBLE EVIL HAS BEFALLEN HIM?

MEDICINES ARE OF NO AVAIL - MY FEAR IS THAT HE GRIEVES FOR HIS MASTER, AND WILL DIE IF HE DOES NOT SOON HEAR HIS VOICE!



DON'T DIE, PLEASE DON'T DIE! I PROMISE I SHALL FETCH YOUR MASTER TO YOU!

DISPATCH MY FATHER'S MESSENGERS AT ONCE FOR THE MASTER OF THIS HORSE! HE MUST BE BROUGHT HERE AT ONCE!



YOU THERE, LAD, WHERE IS THE FELLOW WHO SOLD US THE BLACK HORSE? WE MUST FETCH HIM TO THE PALACE AT ONCE FOR HIS HORSE IS DYING OF GRIEF!



TAKE ME TO HIM! I'LL CURE HIM! I SWEAR I WILL!

DID NOT THAT POMPOUS UNCLE OF THIS BOY SAY THE LAD WAS DAFT?

HE WAS LYING! NO HORSE WOULD DIE OF GRIEF OVER THAT LOUT! LET THE LAD COME WITH US!



HASTE! IF YOU LOVE THIS HORSE AS MUCH AS HE LOVES YOU, DO SOMETHING TO SAVE HIM!

DARK PRINCE!



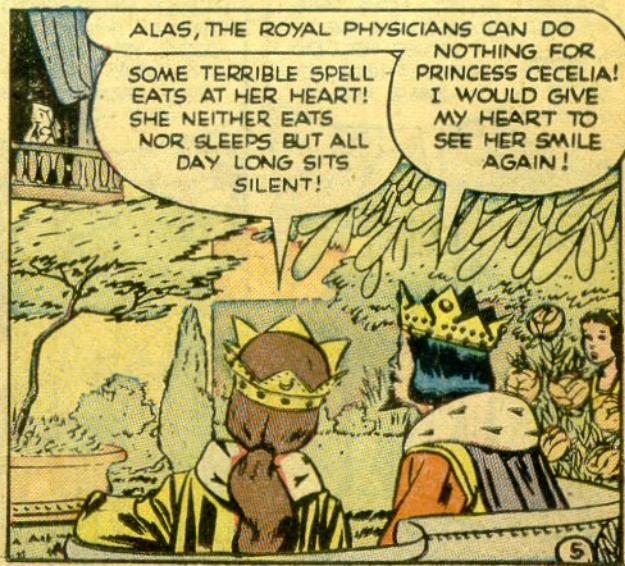
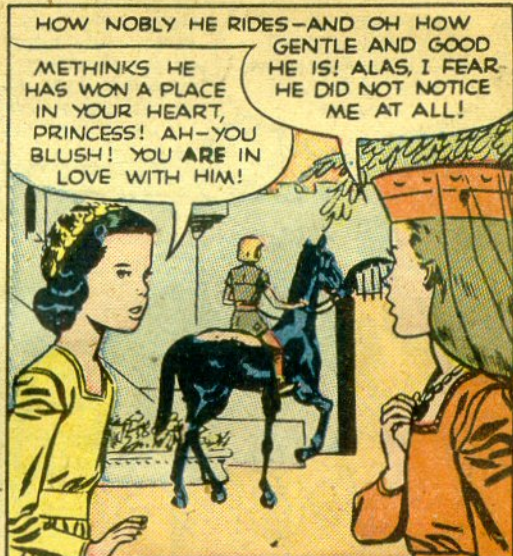
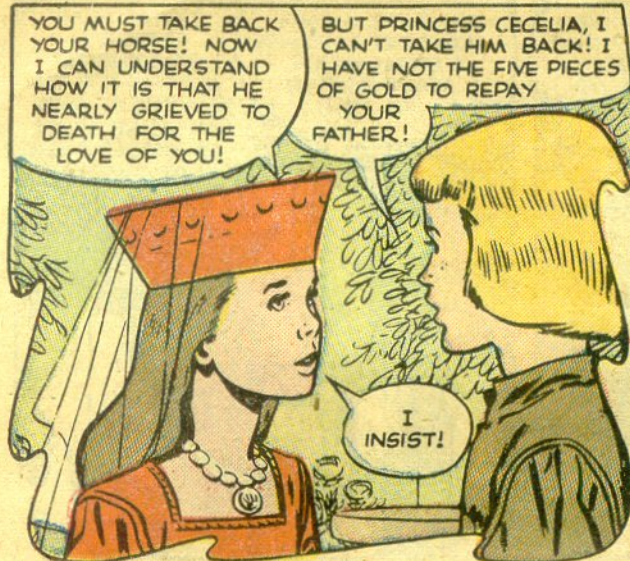
PRINCE, MY BELOVED! YOU DID NOT THINK I WOULD LEAVE YOU WILLINGLY? FOR EVERY DAY WE HAVE BEEN PARTED, I, TOO, HAVE GRIEVED!

FETCH ME SOME OATS AND HAY!



WHAT AN EVIL THING THAT HORSE AND BOY WERE EVER PARTED!









I MUST TELL YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS— 'TIS NOT A TERRIBLE MAGIC IN HER HEART... BUT LOVE!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



PRINCESS CECELIA GRIEVES FOR THE SIGHT OF MICHAEL, THE STABLE BOY! SHE GAVE HIM BACK HIS HORSE AND SHE GAVE HIM HER HEART, TOO! NOW SHE SPEAKS ONLY HIS NAME, 'MICHAEL...MICHAEL... MICHAEL...!'

ORDER MY MEN TO FETCH THE LAD! I WOULD SEE WHAT MANNER OF BOY SHE WOULD GRIEVE FOR SO DEEPLY!



HALLOO! BY ORDER OF THE KING WE COME TO SEE THE LORD OF THE MANOR!

THE KING'S MEN! I MUST SEE THEM AND LEARN WHY THEY COME HERE!



WE HAVE ORDERS TO FETCH A LAD KNOWN AS MICHAEL! HE LIVES HERE AND IS NOTED FOR A BLACK HORSE HE RIDES!

THE WICKED LAD RAN AWAY WEEKS AGO! AS FOR THE HORSE, 'TIS LONGER SINCE I SAW HIM!



OWWW!

WHAT WAS THAT NOISE? AND WHOSE VOICE CRIED OUT?

'TIS NOTHING...NOTHING! ...UH JUST SOME RATS IN THE DUNGEON...

WHAT MANNER OF RATS COULD MAKE SUCH A NOISE? COME, SHOW US THIS DUNGEON!



I ASSURE YOU THERE IS NOTHING IN THE DUNGEON! AS FOR THE LAD HE ISN'T HERE!

INDEED? THEN WHO IS THIS LAD? LIAR! COME, BOY, THE KING WISHES TO SEE YOU!



IS THIS THE LAD FOR WHICH THE PRINCESS GRIEVES? THIS DIRTY FELLOW?

A BATH WOULD SERVE HIM WELL! FOR WEEKS HE HAS BEEN PRISONER IN A FLEA-INFESTED CELL!

LET HIM BE BATHED AND FRESHLY CLAD BEFORE YOU JUDGE HIM, YOUR MAJESTY! HE IS THE ONE!



SO YOU ARE MICHAEL!  
STRANGE...YOU REMIND  
ME OF SOMEONE...

I AM AN ORPHAN,  
YOUR MAJESTY! MY  
NAME IS DIGBY! I HAVE  
BEEN CARED FOR BY MY  
UNCLE CLAVIN! IN EX-  
CHANGE FOR MY LABORS  
HE HAS GIVEN  
ME SHELTER!

DIGBY...DIGBY...THAT IS IT! MY  
DEAREST FRIEND, LORD DENNIS DIGBY  
OF COULTY COUNTY! TELL  
ME, HAVE YOU A BIRTH-  
MARK ON YOUR RIGHT  
SHOULDER?

WOULD  
THIS BE  
WHAT YOU  
MEAN?

IT IS A MIRACLE! YOU ARE THE BABY  
SON STOLEN FROM HIS CASTLE MANY  
YEARS AGO! HOW HAPPY YOUR FATHER  
WOULD BE WERE HE ALIVE TO KNOW  
HIS RIGHTFUL HEIR HAS LIVED TO  
RULE HIS LANDS AND IN-  
HERIT HIS FORTUNE!

HAVE YOU HEARD? THE KING HAS DISCOVERED  
YOUNG MICHAEL IS  
LORD DIGBY'S MISSING  
SON, AND SO HE IN-  
HERITS HIS TITLE  
AND LANDS!

ZOUNDS! I MUST MAKE  
ALL HASTE TO THE KING'S  
PALACE! AS MICHAEL'S  
GUARDIAN ALL THESE  
YEARS, I SURELY DESERVE  
TO SHARE IN HIS FORTUNE!

YOUR MAJESTY, I HAVE HEARD OF THE  
WONDERFUL NEWS OF MY DEAR NEPHEW!  
YOU MAY REST ASSURED THAT AS HIS  
GUARDIAN, I SHALL RAISE HIM PROPERLY!


WRETCH! I  
SHOULD HAVE  
YOU THROWN  
IN IRONS FOR  
TREATING THE  
NOBLE LAD AS A  
SLAVE! I BANISH  
YOU FOREVER  
FROM MY  
KINGDOM!

MICHAEL, WE ARE TOGETHER!  
AND, AS SOON AS WE ARE  
OLD ENOUGH, FATHER  
PROMISES THAT WE  
MAY MARRY!

AND LIVE  
HAPPILY EVER  
AFTER!

THE END





I AM INDEED A PROUD KING TO BE BLESSED WITH TWINS! TELL ME, WHICH OF MY SONS WAS FIRST TO BE BORN?

Once there lived a kind and goodly king. He had for many years longed to have a son. Then one bright morning he was told the news he had long awaited — he was a father of not one, but **two** sons and heirs to his throne!

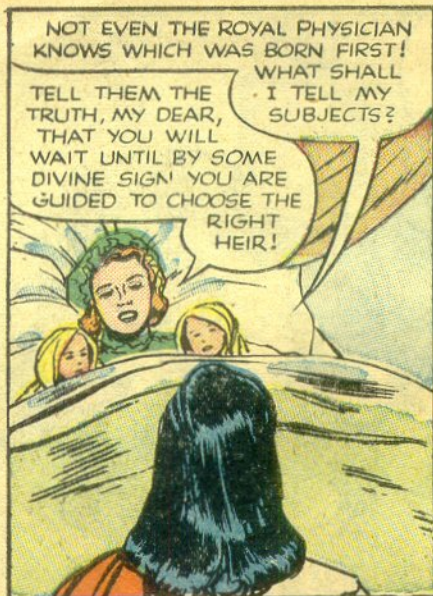
# The RIVAL TWINS

OH, YOUR MAJESTY! THEY WERE BORN A MINUTE APART, AND IN THE EXCITEMENT, NO ONE NOTICED WHICH WAS BORN FIRST!

IS THERE NOT ONE OF YOU WHO CAN TELL ME WHICH WAS THE FIRST BORN? I MUST KNOW! OTHERWISE, HOW SHALL I DECIDE WHICH ONE WILL SOME DAY BE KING?







NOT EVEN THE ROYAL PHYSICIAN KNOWS WHICH WAS BORN FIRST!

WHAT SHALL

I TELL MY SUBJECTS?

TELL THEM THE TRUTH, MY DEAR, THAT YOU WILL WAIT UNTIL BY SOME DIVINE SIGN YOU ARE GUIDED TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT HEIR!

And so, King Roland waited and the years passed, but the princes, Roger and Everett, were so alike, the King could not choose. The only mark of difference was the small cleft in the chin of Everett.

WHICH OF US DO YOU LOVE BEST, ELAINE? ROGER OR ME? WHICH WILL YOU MARRY?

I...I LOVE YOU BOTH! BUT SINCE I CANNOT MARRY YOU BOTH, I WILL MARRY THE ONE WHO IS CHOSEN TO BE KING!



OH - HOW DREADFUL! YOU POOR BIRD! ROGER!

EVERETT! COME HERE! SOMEONE LET THIS POOR LITTLE BIRD NEARLY FREEZE TO DEATH IN THAT HIGH OAK TREE!



WHO DID THIS? WHO IS SO MUCH OF A COWARD THAT HE WOULD NOT BE BRAVE ENOUGH TO CLIMB INTO THE HIGHEST TREE TO SAVE A SICK AND HELPLESS BIRD?

I DIDN'T DO IT!

NEITHER DID I!

As time passed, there were other incidents of weakness that deeply troubled Elaine. She had no proof of who was guilty so she did not tell the King. But she knew that some day he would have to learn the truth.

The twins were now eighteen, and one day, the King's stable master came to him..

YOUR MAJESTY, I BRING YOU SAD NEWS! RAJAH, YOUR FAVORITE STEED LIES SICK IN THE STABLE! NEARLY RIDDEN TO DEATH HE WAS, AND HIS POOR HEART ABOUT TO BURST FROM THE STRAIN!

WHAT? WHO DID IT? WHO TOOK HIM OUT?

'T WAS ONE OF YOUR SONS! I WAS SLEEPING IN THE LOFT AND IN THE EARLY LIGHT, I SAW HIM SADDLE RAJAH AND RIDE OFF! I THOUGHT HE RODE WITH YOUR PERMISSION, SO I DARED NOT QUESTION HIM! I KNOW NOT WHETHER IT WAS ROGER OR EVERETT!







**ROGER! EVERETT!**  
WHICH OF YOU RODE  
RAJAH?  
WHICH OF YOU? SPEAK  
UP! I KNOW IT WAS  
ONE OF YOU!

NOT I!

NOR I, FATHER,  
I DID NOT  
RIDE HIM!



ONE OF YOU LIES!  
WEAKNESS AND  
COWARDICE ARE NOT  
KINGLY QUALITIES!  
WHEN I DISCOVER  
THE WRONGDOER,  
HE WILL FOREVER  
FORFEIT HIS  
RIGHT TO THE  
THRONE!



ROGER, MY HEART  
TELLS ME YOU ARE  
INNOCENT! WHY DO  
YOU NOT DENOUNCE  
EVERETT? FORCE HIM  
TO ADMIT THE  
TRUTH! THE THRONE  
AND EVEN MY HAND  
ARE AT  
STAKE!

MUCH AS I  
LOVE YOU, I  
CANNOT DO  
ANYTHING TO  
INFLUENCE  
MY FATHER'S  
CHOICE!

IF ROGER INHERITS  
THE THRONE, I WILL  
BE POWERLESS! BUT  
LET THAT WEAKLING,  
EVERETT BECOME KING,  
AND I WILL RUN THE  
COUNTRY. HE'LL BE  
A MERE PUPPET IN  
MY HAND!



While the King pondered  
over who should be heir  
apparent, evil forces are  
at work in the kingdom.  
This clever, scheming knave  
named Kaddiva sees a  
way to split the kingdom  
and seize power!

THE PEOPLE OF  
THE KINGDOM HAVE  
LONG BEEN ARGUING  
OVER WHICH OF THE  
PRINCES SHALL BECOME KING!  
IF WE CAN FAN THEIR FEELING  
TO A FEVER PITCH...AND THEN  
THE KING SHOULD DIE, WE  
COULD SEIZE THE KINGDOM  
FOR OURSELVES, BY MAKING  
SURE EVERETT BECOMES  
SOVEREIGN!



Kaddiva and his plotters begin to split the nation...

'TIS ROGER WHO SHOULD BE OUR NEXT KING! AND IF THE KING DIES WITHOUT NAMING AN HEIR NOW, I SHALL FIGHT TO DEATH TO SEE ROGER ON THE THRONE!

NAY, 'TIS EVERETT WHO DESERVES TO BE KING! WHO BACKS ME UP?

I DO!

SO DO I!

KADDIVA, THE FEELING IS RUNNING HIGHER EVERY DAY! SOON THE WHOLE COUNTRY WILL BECOME DIVIDED!

EXCELLENT! WITH EVERETT ON THE THRONE, WE'LL SEIZE THE KINGDOM!

...and in the meeting houses, the seeds of strife are sown...

MEN! KEEP UP YOUR WORK OF DIVIDING THE PEOPLE I HAVE A PLAN TO CARRY OUT!

YOU ARE A SLY ONE, KADDIVA! SOON OUR DAY OF TRIUMPH WILL BE AT HAND!

NOW, TO CARRY OUT MY SCHEME TO RUIN ROGER'S CHANCES OF BEING KING!

Kaddiva in disguise goes to the jousting grounds...

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO EARN A HUNDRED GOLD SOVEREIGNS? THAT'S WHAT I'LL PAY YOU TO TAKE YONDER HORSE!

THE PRINCE'S HORSE! YOU ASK A LOT! STILL A HUNDRED GOLD PIECES ARE HARD TO REFUSE! I'LL DO WHAT I CAN!

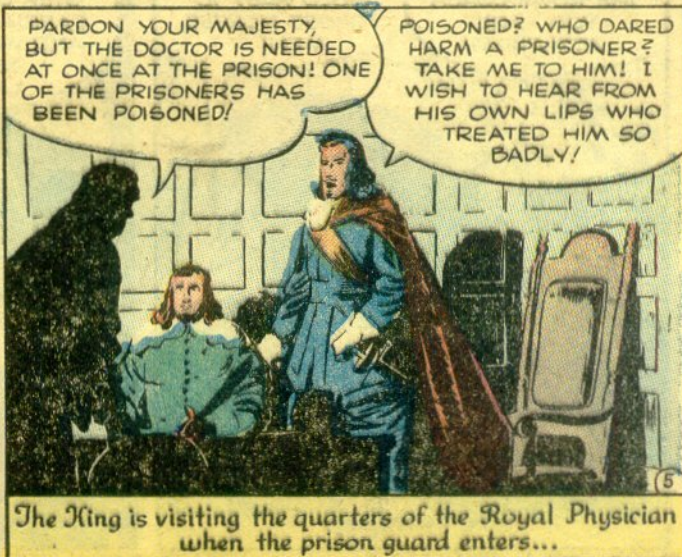
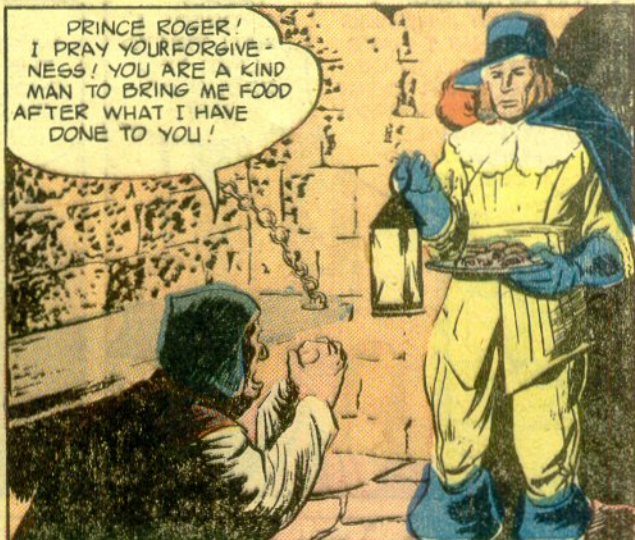
PARDON ME, YOUR MAJESTY! LOOK SHARP-YONDER KNAVE IS TAKING PRINCE ROGER'S HORSE!

AYE, 'TIS SO! STOP HIM!





That evening Kaddiva involves the innocent Everett in a diabolical scheme!







IT WAS PRINCE ROGER! HE GAVE ME THE FOOD... I THOUGHT HE WAS BEING KIND!

HE SPEAKS THE TRUTH—THE PRINCE ORDERED ME TO TURN OVER MY KEYS AND LEAVE! I HAD TO OBEY!



KNAVE! SCOUNDREL! NOW I HAVE FOUND YOU OUT! BY POISONING THE PRISONER WHO TOOK YOUR HORSE YOU HAVE FORFEITED YOUR RIGHT TO THE THRONE!

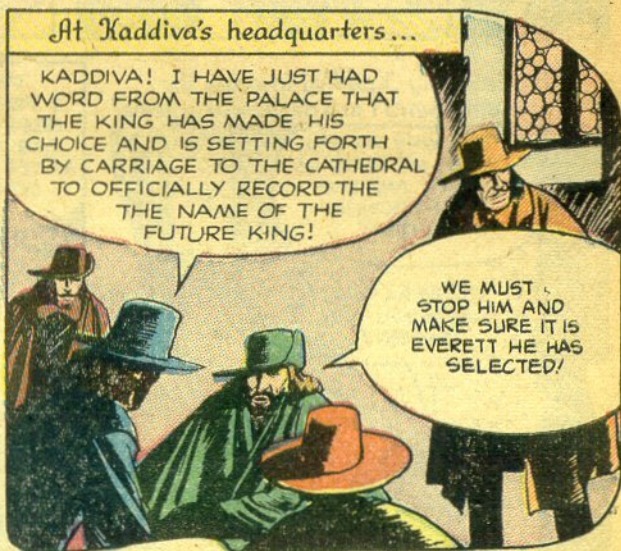
FATHER... I DID NOT DO IT!

HE DOES NOT BELIEVE ME! KADDIVA HAS DONE HIS WORK WELL THIS TIME! HE IS MORE WICKED THAN I BELIEVED!



EVERETT, I'M GLAD YOU RETURNED! I HAVE JUST INFORMED ROGER THAT I HAVE CHOSEN YOU TO BE MY SUCCESSOR TO THE THRONE! TOMORROW WE SHALL PUBLICLY SO DECLARE!

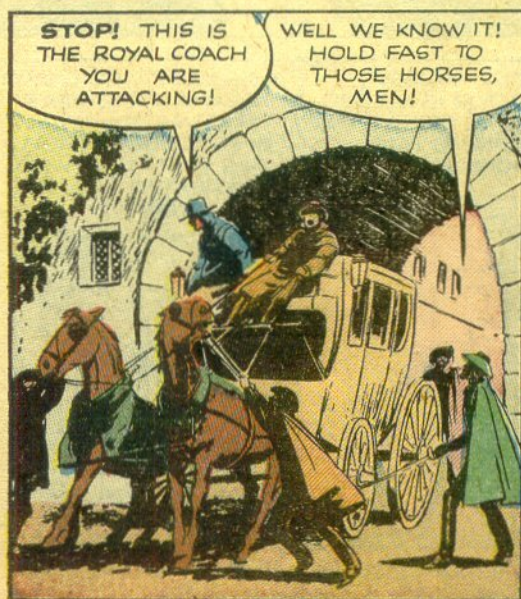
FATHER! I AM DEEPLY HONORED! I SHALL TRY TO MAKE YOU PROUD OF ME!



At Kaddiva's headquarters...

KADDIVA! I HAVE JUST HAD WORD FROM THE PALACE THAT THE KING HAS MADE HIS CHOICE AND IS SETTING FORTH BY CARRIAGE TO THE CATHEDRAL TO OFFICIALLY RECORD THE NAME OF THE FUTURE KING!

WE MUST STOP HIM AND MAKE SURE IT IS EVERETT HE HAS SELECTED!



STOP! THIS IS THE ROYAL COACH YOU ARE ATTACKING!

WELL WE KNOW IT! HOLD FAST TO THOSE HORSES, MEN!



NOW KING ROLAND, STEP OUT OF THE CARRIAGE ALONE AND AND WE WILL LEAVE YOUR SONS UNHARMED!

NAY, FATHER...STAY! I WILL DEAL WITH THESE ASSASSINING!

ROGER, LET HIM GO! YOU HEARD WHAT HE SAID... THEY WILL NOT HARM US!



Sword in hand, Roger lunged from the carriage...

